



Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact support@jstor.org.

therefore, we read that snakes drink both by lapping and by suction, we may surmise that the former is for the benefit of the tongue." The incubation of *Python sebae* is described, and the viviparity or oviparity of snakes generally, is clearly shown to depend simply upon the longer or shorter retention of the eggs within the body of the mother, and to vary in the same species. That some species afford a refuge for their young, is regarded as proved, and the author believes that this occurs in viviparous snakes, or in those in "which from some cause or other extrusion has been so postponed that the young are conscious of existence before birth." The habit is referred to a knowledge on the part of the young of the locality which formerly afforded protection, and remembrance on the part of the mother of previous protection afforded. The protrusion of the glottis during the act of swallowing, so as to enable the snake to breathe while the entire space between its jaws is occupied by living prey, is another little-known point in the economy of snake-life that is rendered clear in these charming pages.

Fascination is explained as of varied origin, in some cases curiosity, in others fear, in still others maternal anxiety for the fate of the young. The swiftly darting tongue is spoken of as a successful lure for birds, which appear to mistake it for a worm or insect. Cures for snake bites are discussed, and it is shown that though many powerful stimulants are successful as remedies, no real antidote for snake-poison is yet known. The illustrations, though few, are well chosen, and most of them original, showing attitudes assumed by snakes under various conditions.

The general reader will find the book a fascinating one, while the more scientific student will rise from its perusal with the consciousness that, though he might have previously known a great deal about snake anatomy, he has learned something new about snakes themselves.

BULLETIN OF THE BUFFALO SOCIETY OF NATURAL SCIENCES.—The final number of the fourth volume of the organ of this active society has just been received. It is a brochure of nearly 140 pages, and is devoted to an enumeration of the cryptogamic plants of Buffalo and its vicinity, in continuation of the catalogue of phænogamous plants, by David F. Day, forming Part III of the same volume. The first two numbers contain entomological, palæontological and ornithological papers of value.

THE STANDARD NATURAL HISTORY.—Nos. 7 to 10 of this valuable publication have reached us. In No. 8 the account of the stalk-eyed Crustacea, prepared by Mr. J. S. Kingsley, is finished; then succeeds the sessile-eyed Crustacea; the groups of Arthropoda of doubtful position, including the Pycnogonida, the Trilobites and Merostomata, as well as the Pentastomida, all prepared by Mr. Kingsley, who then offers an introduction to Class II, Insecta, the part closing with the commencement of an account